

**Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council**  
**Planning Committee Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, September 28, 2016, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
Dutchess County Central Services (1<sup>st</sup> Floor), 27 High Street, Poughkeepsie, NY

**1. Introductions** – See attached list.

**2. Announcements**

Mark Debald (PDCTC) announced that Ms. Noel Knille will be leaving as Dutchess County DPW Commissioner, and will be replaced by Mr. Robert Balkind. In addition, Mr. Joe Chenier has moved on from City of Poughkeepsie Engineering to head the City of Kingston's Public Works Department.

Mark also discussed the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Coordination and Planning Area Reform Proposed Rulemaking. As mentioned at our previous meeting, USDOT issued a proposed rulemaking to re-designate MPOs so that their planning boundaries more closely match their respective urbanized areas. The Poughkeepsie-Newburgh NY-NJ urbanized area stretches into Orange and Ulster Counties in New York, and Passaic County in New Jersey; the PDCTC is uniquely positioned as a result of this effort because multiple MPOs operate in our urbanized area. One implication of this rulemaking could be merging the various MPOs or having them create joint planning documents for the entire urbanized area. The public comment period initially closed on August 26<sup>th</sup>, but has been extended until October 23, 2016. The three County Executives from Orange, Ulster, and Dutchess counties issued individual comment letters to USDOT, outlining their concerns about the MPOs potentially merging and the implications it would have on local planning efforts. Mark also noted that the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), and the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) submitted joint comments.

Mark also explained that on August 17, 2016, NYSDOT announced the availability of \$98.7 million in funding for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program. These programs support bicycle and pedestrian projects, as well as other transportation-related projects to enhance air quality. A 20% local match is required for TAP/CMAQ projects, as well as construction within 18 months from award, which might be a challenge for any project requiring extensive right-of-way. The minimum TAP/CMAQ project award shall be no less than \$250,000 and no greater than \$5.0 million for any single project. Applications are due October 21, 2016. Mark noted that a TAP workshop was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> at Region 8; the Towns of Amenia, Beekman, Pleasant Valley, Red Hook, and Union Vale, as well as the Village of Tivoli, the City of Poughkeepsie, and Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association attended.

Emily Svenson (Town of Hyde Park) added that there is a qualifying webinar for the

TAP/CMAQ program on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>; all sponsors applying for this funding must attend a 2016 TAP/CMAQ informational webinar [an email was subsequently sent to Mayors, Supervisors, and Highway superintendents on September 28<sup>th</sup> with more information about the webinar]. Additionally, Mark noted that Martin Evans will serve as the Region 8 TAP Coordinator. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) noted that NYSDOT cannot apply for Tap funding, but can apply for CMAQ funds.

Mark added that NYSDOT had indicated that they plan to make the BRIDGE NY award announcements by the end of the year (applications were due September 9<sup>th</sup>). Overall, approximately 280 applications were received statewide; 45 bridge applications and 88 culvert applications were received for Region 8. This is \$200-million in new money available statewide for the rehabilitation and replacement of local bridges and culverts; approximately \$19.5 million was available in the Hudson Valley and \$20 million statewide for culverts. Sponsors are encouraged to apply next year if they don't get awarded this year.

Mark noted that in August, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reported that 35,092 people were killed in traffic crashes in 2015, ending a five-decade trend of declining fatalities with a 7.2% increase in deaths from 2014. The data showed traffic deaths rising across nearly every segment of the population. The last single-year increase of this magnitude was in 1966, when fatalities rose 8.1% from the previous year. In Dutchess County, there were 26 fatalities in 2015, an increase of three from 2014; overall, Dutchess County's ten-year average is 22. Bob LaColla (Town of Fishkill) was curious about the causes leading to the trend of increased fatalities; Mark stated that the data does not provide that level of detail, but he expects it will be released soon.

3. **Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements; none were noted.

#### 4. **Dutchess County Pavement Monitoring Initiative**

Mark (PDCTC) explained that from June to August 2016, the Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), in conjunction with the Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council (PDCTC), initiated a county-wide pavement scoring program for all local roads within Dutchess County (i.e. county, city, town, and village roads). The purpose of the project is to provide municipalities with an objective and uniform Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating for their paved roads, based on accepted guidelines and methodologies developed by the Cornell Local Roads Program (CLRP). Our intent is that municipalities will use this information to track the condition of their road network, prioritize limited roadway maintenance funds, and develop capital planning programs to maintain and improve local road conditions.

Funded through the PDCTC's federally-supported planning program, this pavement scoring project relied on engineering interns to perform a visual survey of local roads and calculate a PCI rating for each road segment. Due to the amount of local road mileage in the county

(over 2,000 miles), it was expected that this scoring project to take three years to complete; however, the interns were able to rate approximately half of the local roads this summer, so we expect to complete the remaining half in summer 2017.

Data was distributed via email and mail to Mayors and Supervisors, and Highway Superintendents on September 16th. For 2016, the following municipalities were completed: Cities of Beacon & Poughkeepsie. Towns of Amenia, Dover, Fishkill, Milan, North East, Pine Plains, Pleasant Valley, Poughkeepsie, Red Hook, & Wappinger. Villages of Fishkill, Millerton, Red Hook, Tivoli, & Wappingers Falls. For 2017, the following municipalities will be completed: Towns of Beekman, Clinton, East Fishkill, Hyde Park, LaGrange, Pawling, Rhinebeck, Stanford, Union Vale, & Washington. Villages of Millbrook, Pawling, & Rhinebeck.

Randy Casale (City of Beacon) and Mark Figliozi (Town of Pleasant Valley) commended DPW staff on the comprehensive nature of the data; they both agreed that the data matched their own highway department's assessment of their roads and respective capital programs. Mark (PDCTC) encouraged municipalities to review the data and provide any feedback to DPW/PDCTC staff.

## **5. FFY 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mark (PDCTC) thanked the City of Poughkeepsie and Dutchess County DPW for obligating phases/projects programmed for FFY 2016 and/or rescheduling 2016 phases to FFY 2017 in order to improve our STIP performance. In particular, we were able to obligate PIN 875782-Creek Rd./Smith/Little George St. roundabout in the City of Poughkeepsie and PIN 875726-CR 78 (Broadway) bridge in the Village of Tivoli in 2016.

Funding was awarded from the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) for FFY 2016 Section 5310 funding for the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA), consisting of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties. The program supports the transportation needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities where public transportation services are unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate; a total of \$85,622 is available. The TMA received six applications for the three counties. Of these, one was found to be incomplete by NYSDOT. Based on discussion among the staff and the rating team, the TMA agreed to support two projects: one in Dutchess and one in Orange. The Dutchess project is for the purchase of a vehicle by the Lutheran Care Center in Poughkeepsie, while the Orange project will support Access: Supports for Living in Orange County and the purchase of a 4-Post Rotary Lift with 2 rolling jacks with delivery and installation. The State intends to hold another FTA 5310 call in 2017 and then move to a biennial schedule (e.g. 2019; 2021).

Mark reviewed two Administrative Modifications that were processed for the FFY 2014-2018 TIP, reference the Section 5310 project noted above and a DCDPW bridge project:

- a. PDCTC 14-AA: PIN 8TD008: Purchase of FTA Section 5310 vehicle by Lutheran Care Center (total cost is approx. \$79,000).
- b. PDCTC 14-AB: PIN 875592: CR 14 (Hollow Rd.) bridge in the Town of Clinton moved to FFY 2017 from 2016, from request from sponsor.

## **6. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mark (PDCTC) noted that NYSDOT held a 30-day public comment period for the Draft STIP from July 27<sup>th</sup> through August 26<sup>th</sup>. The STIP, and our new TIP, will go into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup> – the start of the 2017 federal fiscal year (FFY). As mentioned at our previous meeting, we will process an Administrative Modification to move DCDPW's CR 93 (Myers Corners Rd.) realignment project (PIN 8755.45-CR 94 to Route 376) back into the four-year STIP: \$7.17 million total in SFY 2017/2018. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) added that the Washington St. bridge in the City of Poughkeepsie will replace the Mansion St bridge on the TIP, since it was identified as a more pressing concern.

Pending the outcome of the BRIDGE NY program, the PDCTC will issue a call for projects for the STBG Off-System Bridge funding: an FHWA program that provides federal funds for 80 percent of the costs associated with the rehabilitation and/or replacement of county and locally-owned bridges that are not located on a federal-aid eligible road. A total of \$3.6 million in federal funding (i.e. combined total project cost of \$4.5 million) is available in Dutchess County.

## **7. Repurposing of Federal Earmarks**

Senators Schumer and Gillibrand announced last week that the Harlem Valley Rail Trail would receive \$3.5 million in repurposed earmark funding. This additional funding will allow the County to move forward with the project as planned. They also announced that the Village of Red Hook would receive over \$88,000 for ADA-compliant sidewalk improvements. NYSDOT had indicated that bicycle/pedestrian projects were the focus of this effort, so the awards are consistent with these goals. There were over 60 project awards in the state, totaling \$91 million. At this time, we do not know which earmarks were repurposed. NYSDOT has sent notification letters to awardees. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) added that this funding allocation still has to be approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) before it is distributed to the project sponsors.

## **8. Project Updates**

Mark (PDCTC) announced that the PDCTC held a public meeting at Red Hook Town Hall on September 21, 2016 to review recommendations from the recently completed Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan. The Plan establishes a prioritized, ten-year program to improve transportation safety and access on NYS Route 9G in the Red Hook/Tivoli area, CR 78 (Broadway) through Tivoli, and CR 103 (Annandale Rd.) through Bard College. The

meeting also included an update from NYSDOT and DCDPW on ongoing projects in the area and how they intend to implement the Plan's recommendations.

Emily Dozier (PDCTC) explained that Arlington Pedestrian Plan aims to create a walkable, bikeable town center; the focus is on integrating Main St in the Town of Poughkeepsie with the rest of Arlington through the improvement of its bicycle and pedestrian facilities. She added that PDCTC staff attended the Arlington Street Fair on September 24<sup>th</sup> to conduct outreach to the public regarding the study. PDCTC staff also gave a presentation to the Business Improvement District in the Town on the preliminary recommendations of the plan.

Emily (PDCTC) noted that an internal Complete Streets Committee, with members from many different departments including Planning/PDCTC, Public Works, Traffic Safety Board, Sherriff, and Behavioral & Community Health, have created a countywide Complete Streets Policy. The idea of 'complete streets' aims to include users of all ages and abilities when creating transportation facilities. The committee is seeking County Legislative approval of this policy in October.

Shelby Tompkins (PDCTC) explained that the traffic count program is progressing as scheduled. Approximately 170 counts have been conducted this year to date and the program is expected to be completed by mid-October.

Mark (PDCTC) noted that the Transportation Management Area (TMA), consisting of Orange, Ulster, and Dutchess Counties, is working on a Regional Transit Study; this study will include the review and assessment of transit services in the region, focusing on how to better interconnect the counties with each one another and connect the region to the Albany and NYC metro areas. Currently, a draft scope of services has been created and Orange County has tentatively agreed to manage the contract with the prospective consultant. The TMA is hoping to issue an RFP soon.

Mark (PDCTC) added that PDCTC staff is starting to develop the 2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and reminded municipalities that the PDCTC is available to assist communities with their local transportation planning needs. Currently, the Villages of Millerton and Pawling have expressed interest in having sidewalk studies completed, and the PDCTC is exploring a consultant-supported Downtown Parking Study.

**9. Public Participation** – It was suggested that the Complete Streets checklist be added to the Greenway Guides to use as a model for our local communities.

**10. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 26, 2016** at 10:00 a.m. at the Dutchess County Planning Department (27 High St – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Poughkeepsie).

Attendance List

	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Phone
1	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
2	Emily	Dozier	PDCTC	845-486-3600
3	Shelby	Tompkins	PDCTC	845-486-3600
4	Tom	Weiner	NYSDOT	845-431-5723
5	Don	Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	845-790-4736
6	Barbara	Zulauf	Town of Beekman	845-724-5300
7	Mark	Figliozi	Town of Pleasant Valley	845-635-3598
8	Rob	Rolison	City of Poughkeepsie	845-451-4073
9	John	Karge	Village of Wappingers Falls	845-297-8773
10	Lori	Jiava	Town of Wappinger	845-297-2744
11	Bob	LaColla	Town of Fishkill	845-831-7860
12	Emily	Svenson	Town of Hyde Park	845-489-2286
13	Randy	Casale	City of Beacon (by phone)	845-838-5011
14	Marleen	Stein	MTA (by phone)	212-878-7080
15	Cynthia	Ruiz	DCPT (by phone)	845-473-8521